# In the Legislature



# of the State of Washington

## **DIGEST SUPPLEMENT**

To Legislative Digest and History of Bills **Supplement No. 55\*** 

#### FIFTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Thursday, April 5, 2001

88th Day - 2001 Regular

<b>SENATE</b>		HOUSE

SB 6173 SCR 8415 HB 1832-S HB 2104-S

### LIST OF BILLS IN DIGEST SUPPLEMENTS

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#### **House Bills**

HB 1832-S by House Committee on Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives Linville and G. Chandler; by request of Governor Locke)

Modifying provisions concerning water management.

#### (DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)

Declares that the legislature is committed to meeting the needs of a growing population and a healthy economy statewide; to meeting the needs of fish and healthy watersheds statewide; and to advancing these two principles together, in increments over time.

Finds that improved management of the state's water resources, clarifying the authorities, requirements, and timelines for establishing instream flows, providing timely decisions on water transfers, clarifying the authority of water conservancy boards, and enhancing the flexibility of our water management system to meet both environmental and economic goals are important steps to providing a better future for our state.

Declares that the need for these improvements is particularly urgent as we are faced with the imminent threat of drought conditions. The failure to act now will only increase the potential negative effects on both the economy and the environment, including fisheries resources.

Declares that deliberative action over several legislative sessions and interim periods between sessions will be required to address the long-term goal of improving the responsiveness of the state water code to meet the diverse water needs of the state's citizenry.

Declares an intent to begin this work now by providing tools to enable the state to respond to imminent drought conditions and other immediate problems relating to water resources management. It is also the intent to lay the groundwork for future legislation for addressing the state's long-term water problems.

#### -- 2001 REGULAR SESSION --

Apr 2 APP - Majority; 1st substitute bill be substituted, do pass.

HB 2104-S by House Committee on Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives Rockefeller, Sump, Pearson and Doumit)

Providing for an increase in forest fire protection funds.

#### (DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)

Declares an intent that the costs of fire protection be equitably shared between the forest protection assessment account and state contributions to ensure that there will be sufficient fire fighters who are equipped and trained to respond quickly to fires in order to keep fires small and manage those large fires that do occur. In recognition of increases in landowner assessments, the legislature declares

its intent that increases in the state's share for forest protection should be provided to stabilize the funding for the forest protection program, and that sufficient state funds should be committed to the forest protection program so that the recommendations contained in the 1997 tridata report can be implemented on an equitable basis.

#### -- 2001 REGULAR SESSION --

Apr 2 APP - Majority; 1st substitute bill be substituted, do pass.

#### **Senate Bills**

#### SB 6173 by Senator Horn

Allowing recovery of taxpayer litigation expenses.

Provides that, in a proceeding before a superior court involving property taxes, the judge may allow reasonable attorneys' fees and other reasonable expenses, as determined by the court, incurred by the taxpayer during the current proceeding and all prior proceedings before the board of tax appeals, department of revenue, or county board of equalization for the matter in dispute. These attorneys' fees and reasonable expenses are in addition to costs or disbursements allowed prior to the effective date of this act.

#### -- 2001 REGULAR SESSION --

Apr 4 First reading, referred to Judiciary.

#### **Senate Concurrent Resolutions**

SCR 8415 by Senators Snyder and West

Amending cutoff dates.

Resolves that the cutoff dates established in Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 8402 be amended as follows:

That after 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 12, 2001, the ninety-fifth day, neither house may consider any bills, memorials, or joint resolutions except initiatives to the legislature and alternatives to such initiatives, messages pertaining to amendments, matters of differences between the two houses, and matters incident to the interim and to the closing of the business of the 2001 Regular Session of the Legislature.

#### -- 2001 REGULAR SESSION --

Apr 4 Read first time, rules suspended, and placed on second reading calendar.

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